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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/24/08

SPONSOR Carraro LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE NM Tech ICASA Program Expansion SB 233

ANALYST Haug

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 233 appropriates \$100.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology to expand the work of the Institute for Complex Additive Systems Analysis.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

A request was submitted by NMIMT in the amount of \$647,320 to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review. The request is a \$23,120 increase to recurring funding. The Department's funding recommendation for FY09 is a continuance of FY08 recurring funding in the amount of \$624,200 with no additional funding at this time.

The HED's evaluation table of FY09 Research and Public Service Projects provided to the LFC classifies this project as a "would not oppose if funding available" project. Reasons for this classification decision are not provided. (LFC Report 07-20, Higher Education Department Review of Selected Research and Public Service Projects, January 12, 2008, Table 4, p73.)

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The HED states that the Institute for Complex Additive Systems Analysis (ICASA) will utilize funds to:

- provide learning opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students to enhance their critical problem solving skills;
- conduct applied research to analyze and understand interdependent systems;
- utilize ICASA research to help solve issues regarding complex interdependent systems that arise in the public and private sectors; and
- stimulate commerce by serving as an information-age extension service for New Mexico businesses.

According to NMT, ICASA is a research division within NMT dedicated to protecting America's critical infrastructure systems through the study and education of interdependent complex systems. ICASA develops courses that look at the needs of the nation and integrates disciplines to meet these needs. ICASA relies on departments within NMT as well as government and commercial contractors to carry out its goals. ICASA has developed a reputation for tackling major projects with relatively short turnaround times, which has earned it a renewal as a Center of Excellence in Information Assurance as designated by the U.S. Department of Defense National Security Agency.

GH/bb